

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 139699

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ORIGIN DPW-01

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DOD/ISA - DR. SHIELDS (INFO)

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R 272325Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

CINCPAC

JCRC NKP THAILAND

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E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA, VN

SUBJECT: PW/MIA'S - VISIT BY QUAKER GROUP TO NVN

1. LOUIS SCHNEIDER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE IN PHILADELPHIA, INFORMED DEPTOFF (D/PW) OF TRAVEL TO HANOI BY HIMSELF AND TWO OTHER QUAKERS REPS JULY 31 FOR ONE-TWO WEEKS AT INVITATION OF DRV. MAIN PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO OBSERVE USE BEING MADE OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DONATED BY QUAKERS TO VIET DUC HOSPITAL IN HANOI (WITH TREA SURY & COMMERCE LICENSES). QUAKERS HAVE ALSO SENT AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS TO HAIPHONG INTENDED FOR PRG, AND SCHNEIDER THINKS GROUP MAY BE INVITED TO TRAVEL SOUTH
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PAGE 02 STATE 139699

TO "LIBERATED" AREAS. ACCOMPANYING HIM WILL BE DR.

MARGERY NELSON PERISHO AND MR. RON YOUNG, BOTH OF WHOM IN PREVIOUS YEARS WORKED AT AFSC REHABILITATION CENTER AT QUANG NGAI, SVN. DR. PERISHO (THEN NELSON) WAS CAPTURED BY NVA FORCES IN HUE DURING TET, 1968 OFFENSIVE AND WAS RELEASED MARCH 31, 1968.

2. DEPTOFF PROVIDED CURRENT INFORMATION ON PW/MIA SITUATION, WITH EMPHASIS ON RECOVERY OF REMAINS OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL LOST IN NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM, NOTING LEGAL AND HUMAN ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM FOR THE MIA FAMILIES. SCHNEIDER ASKED WHICH OFFICES IN DRV WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS AND INDICATED HE WOULD TRY TO PURSUE IT IN HANOI. (FYI, SCHNEIDER AND OTHER AFSC REPS WERE HELPFUL IN EARLIER YEARS IN CARRYING MAIL AND SEEKING INFO ON AMERICAN PW'S IN NVN. END FYI.)

3. DEPTOFF SUGGESTED SCHNEIDER AND COLLEAGUES CONTACT AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WHEN THEY TRANSIT LAOS JULY 28-30, PROVIDING NAMES OF AMBASSADOR, DCM, AND AID DIRECTOR MANN. SCHNEIDER SAID AFSC REP MARTY TEITEL IS ALREADY IN VIENTIANE AND MAY BE IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY RE POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT. TEITEL MAY ALSO WANT TO DISCUSS AFSC PROGRAMS FOR BOTH SIDES IN PGNU IN LAOS. SISCO

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